GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4202
ANSWERED ON:24.08.2005
NETWORK OF BASIC SPORTS INFRASTRUCTURE
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Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government proposes to create a network of basic sports infrastructure through out the country;

(b) if so, the plan prepared by the Union Government in this regard;

(c) whether the Government is aware that youth of the country do not show any interest in sports;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to develop excellence in sports and promote sports amongst the youth particularly belonging to the rural areas?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER`S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN)

(a)&(b): `Sports` is a `State` subject under the Constitution. It is primarily the responsibility of the State Government to create basic sports infrastructure throughout the country. Till 31.3.2005 , the Ministry was supplementing the efforts of the State Governments in this direction by providing Central assistance under the Centrally Sponsored Sports Infrastructure Schemes in accordance with the approved pattern subject to the receipt of viable proposals from the State Government. The Sports Infrastructure schemes have been transferred to the State sector w.e.f. 1.4.2005 and all State Governments were informed accordingly in February, 2005. No funds have been allocated in the budget for 2005-06 for sports infrastructure.

(c) to (e): A National Sports Policy with emphasis on broad basing of sports and promotion of excellence has been adopted by the government. The policy also envisages action for scientific back up to sportspersons. The Ministry operates the Rural Sports Programme with the purpose of arranging tournaments in rural areas and at the Block, District, State and National levels. A sum of Rs. 1.15 crores has been released to Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangthana for organizing local rural tournamentrs during 2005-06 at District level in 58 districts of North-East Region. Government of India is also implementing a scheme of `Sports Scholarships` through Sports Authority of India (SAI) with the objective of assisting talented young boys and girls for their outstanding performance in Sports. Apart from this, Sports Authority of India (SAI) through their various schemes augments the efforts of the State Government in Promotion of Sports for improving sports performances at Sub-Junior, Junior and Senior level . At present SAI is implementing various schemes for promotion and development of sports in the country like National Sports Talent Contest Scheme (NSTC), Army Boys Sports Company (ABSC), Special Area Games (SAG), SAI Training Centre (STC), Centre of Excellence (COX).